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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

COUNTRY

East Germany

SUBJECT

Former East German Wholesale
Feed and Grain Dealers under
the "New Course"

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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a former wholesale feed and grain dealer in Zwickau, whose business functions had been taken over by state agricultural commodities procurement agencies (VEAB) in 1950 and whose license to do business had been revoked by the municipality, applied to the Ministry for Commerce and Provisioning (Handel und Versorgung) for permission to reopen his business. He based his application on the decree of 11 June 1953 of the East German Council of Ministers, whereby wholesalers whose businesses had been taken over by state organs were to be allowed to resume their former functions as private entrepreneurs. [redacted], a former wholesale feed and grain dealer in Halle, finding himself in like circumstances, also submitted an application to the above-mentioned Ministry requesting permission to reopen his business.

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2. These applications were routed by the Ministry to the State Secretariat for Procurement and Purchase. [redacted] in separate letters having identical wording, the Halle and the Zwickau dealers were informed that only the VEAB's were authorized to engage in the feed and grain trade. They, the grain dealers, were, however, permitted to lease any storage space or grain bins they had to the local VEAB.

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COMMENT. It does not appear that the much-publicized New Course, under which wholesale merchants and distributors were to be allowed to reopen their businesses to participate in raising the standard of living in East Germany, has been implemented on the regional and local working level.

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